

**From:** U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration <dea@govdelivery.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 18, 2011 12:21 PM  
**To:** Khan, Annie (DPH)  
**Subject:** U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration Dateline DEA Update

## **Dateline DEA**

Drug Enforcement Administration's Biweekly E-mail Informant

November 18, 2011

### **Top Stories from the DEA, November 5-18, 2011**

---

#### **Major Cross-Border Drug Tunnel, 14 Tons of Marijuana Discovered**

Investigators on the multi-agency San Diego Tunnel Task Force recently discovered a drug tunnel running from a warehouse in a Otay Mesa, California industrial park, beneath the border, to a warehouse more than 400 yards away in Tijuana, Mexico. From the warehouse floor, the tunnel plunges more than 20 feet. Measuring four by three feet, it is equipped with structural supports, electricity, and ventilation.

The San Diego Tunnel Task Force recently began its surveillance of the warehouse after observing possible suspicious activity at the site. This week, after agents spotted a small cargo truck leaving the facility, the truck was pulled over and discovered approximately three tons of marijuana inside. Based upon the truck stop, agents obtained a warrant to enter the warehouse, where they recovered nearly 6½ additional tons of marijuana. Meanwhile, officers alerted authorities in Mexico, who made entry into the Tijuana warehouse, resulting in the seizure of an additional five to six tons of marijuana.

[Click Here to Read the DEA Press Release](#)

#### **Chicago 20: Drug Traffickers, including Zeta Cartel Members Charged**

Based on a DEA and FBI investigation, 20 defendants, including five alleged members of the Zetas Mexico-based drug cartel, now face federal narcotics charges in Chicago. Of the 20, 13 have been arrested, one was already in federal custody, one is hospitalized, and five remain fugitives. In addition to the charges and arrests announced November 16, recent investigations of this Chicago based cell resulted in seizures of more than \$12.4 million and approximately 250 kilograms of cocaine in the Chicago area. If convicted, 12 defendants face a mandatory 10 years in federal prison to a maximum of life, while the remaining eight, if convicted, could receive a minimum of five and a maximum of 40 years in federal prison.

[Click Here to Read the DEA Press Release](#)

#### **DEA Statement on Death of FARC Commander Alfonso Cano**

DEA Administrator Michele M. Leonhart issued the following statement in response to the death of FARC Commander Alfonso Cano on November 4: "The Government of Colombia and their brave military and police forces have struck a formidable blow against the FARC, the most notorious narco-terrorist organization in the world. Alfonso Cano's death is today's headline, but often overlooked are the successful tactical strikes our Colombian partners achieve against the FARC every week. DEA is proud to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Colombia in their quest to bring an end to the FARC's tyranny and drug trafficking."

[For More Information on DEA in Colombia, Click Here](#)

#### **DEA's Third National Prescription Drug Take-Back Collects 188.5 Tons**

DEA collected more than 377,086 pounds (188.5 tons) of unwanted or expired medications during its third National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on October 29 at the 5,327 take-back sites in all 50 states. Nearly one million pounds (498.5 tons) of medications have been collected during DEA's three Take-Back Day events in the last 13 months.

"The amount of prescription drugs turned in by the American public during the past three Take-Back Day events speaks volumes about the need to develop a convenient way to rid homes of unwanted or expired prescription drugs," said DEA Administrator Michele M. Leonhart. "DEA remains hard at work to establish just such a drug disposal process, and will continue to offer take-back opportunities until the proper regulations are in place. "With the continued support and hard work of our more than 3,945 state, local, and tribal law enforcement and community partners, these three events have dramatically reduced the risk of prescription drug diversion and abuse, and increased awareness of this critical public health issue," said Leonhart.

[Click Here to Read the DEA Press Release](#)

---

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Three DEA task force officers died 25 years ago in a helicopter crash in Arkansas: TFO Criminal Investigator Kevin Brosch, TFO Deputy Sheriff James Avant, and TFO Criminal Investigator Charles Bassing. On July 24, 1986 while on a marijuana eradication mission, their helicopter crashed, killing them and critically injuring the DEA pilot and a DEA Special Agent on board. For more information on these brave men and all the men and women of DEA who have died in the line of duty, click [here](#).

You are subscribed to Dateline DEA for U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. This information has recently been updated, and is now available.

---

You have received this e-mail because you have asked to be notified of changes to the U.S. Department of Justice Web site. Update your subscription to this service, modify your password or e-mail address, or stop subscriptions at any time on your [Subscriber Preferences Page](#). You will need to use your e-mail address to log in. If you have questions or problems with the subscription service, please contact [support@govdelivery.com](mailto:support@govdelivery.com). If you have questions about the Department of Justice Web site, please contact [webmaster@usdoj.gov](mailto:webmaster@usdoj.gov).

GovDelivery is providing this service on behalf of the Department of Justice and may not use your subscription information for any other purposes.

[Department of Justice Privacy Policy](#)

[GovDelivery Privacy Policy](#)



This email was sent to [annie.khan@state.ma.us](mailto:annie.khan@state.ma.us) using GovDelivery, on behalf of U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration · 950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW · Washington, DC 20530 · 800-439-1420